

J. EDGAR DAVIS,
PROGRESO, No. 48
LEÓN, GTO., MÉXICO.

Leon, Gto., Mexico.

July 23d 1906

Dr. R. J. Willingham,

Richmond, Va.

Dear Brother:-

This morning I am in receipt of a letter from Bro. Cheavens in which he tells me what you recently wrote to him about my going to Torreón. Well, when he wrote me in the first place I told him that I was ready to stay here or go there as seemed best. On the strength of that, he wrote you, I suppose. Now, I am going to lay before you the Leon situation just as it is.

As you know Josué Valdez is here as my helper. Here we have a little congregation, he preaching one sermon per week and I preaching an equal number. Of course we have our S.S. here. Then he or I one, usually he goes out to visit Silao and Irapuato twice each month, and Lagos once per month. Also we recently took hold of Panindícuaro, at the earnest request of Dr. Chastain. We have very little opportunity to evangelize here in this part. Of course we must hold this place, but if you will pardon my saying it, it seems to me a loss of opportunity for one who wants to evangelize, as I do. You know that I was considered one of the best "evangelist-pastors" in our part of the country, when in the States. Well, I feel almost crushed down here on account of not having the chance to do that kind of work more.

Of course, you will say that we ought to hold Leon. I say, Amen. But how can we do it? Well, it seems to me that with an occasional visit from a missionary Valdez could do the work just as well, and at a great deal less expense. Now, do not think that I am excited and am a "rolling stone" for that is not it. I have often wondered if I should not have gone to Torreón in the first place. God only knows. But now we have the chance of settling the matter. There I will have the opportunity of evangelizing and exercising my special gift, if it can be said that I have a special gift.

But one thing more. It is the printery. This is a great force. It is going to grow. But here, how? Here it will be necessary to have a man--a good printer to relieve me of the work from now on, as

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also it will be there in Torreon. But we cannot employ a man here. These fanatics will not even bind 10 vols. of Spurgeon's Sermons, on account of their fear of the priests. I have been shutting my eyes and waiting for the time to come when I would have to meet the fanatical situation in search of a printer. In Torreon, with one man, under my direction, and the boys, we could do a great deal more work than is possible here with several men employed. Torreon is just as well situated for the printery as Leon.

Now to conclude, will say that I am ready to do whatever the Board says. I think, personally, that I could be of much greater service there than here. But, that may not be a good reason. Do what seems best. May the Lord lead.

I am fraternally yours in Christ,

J. E. Davis

I should add that at Lagos we have a congregation of 3, at Silas 6 or 8 and Orapuerto 3 or 4. Here we have from 10 to 20 in attendance usually.